

world in which our grandchildren's children will live their lives, amid whatever kind of landscape we have left them. Count mine as one solid voice and vote on behalf of taking care that the landscape we bequeath to future generations is one with an abundant, generous, diverse system of wilderness areas, not only in the remotest stretches of the Arctic, but right here close to home—in a “backyard wilderness” such as the Alpine Lakes.

IN LASTING MEMORY OF JUDGE
CHARLES SKINNER

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Judge Charles Skinner, a true treasure to the community of El Dorado, Arkansas, and to Union County. Judge Skinner passed away November 2, 2007, at the age of 73.

Judge Charles Skinner spent his lifetime dedicated to public service and to improving the community around him. He devoted 20 years to Union County as a juvenile probation officer where he garnered much support and admiration for his professionalism and outgoing nature. His work over the years with youth where he taught the values of respect and service shaped the lives of numerous young people, and had a lasting impact on the quality of life in Union County that can still be felt today.

It was Judge Skinner's deep work ethic and dedication to helping others that led him to seek public office as Union County Judge. His popularity, which he gained through his selfless service, was evident in his 1990 landslide victory in which he won each precinct within the county. He will always be remembered and held in high regard for his service to Union County to make it a better place to live for all who called it home.

Throughout his life and career, Judge Skinner believed deeply in the fundamental idea of assisting others and giving back to those who needed a helping hand. I extend my deepest condolences to his wife, Jo Ann Skinner of El Dorado; his two sons, Charles Skinner Jr., of El Dorado and David Skinner of El Dorado; his brother, James Skinner of Magnolia; and to his numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and friends. Judge Skinner will be greatly missed in El Dorado, Union County and throughout the state of Arkansas, and I will continue to keep his family in my thoughts and prayers.

EXPRESSING CONCERN RELATING
TO IRANIAN REGIME AND
MAHMOUD AHMADINEJAD

SPEECH OF

HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 435, a resolution that I authored with my friend, Mr. MACK.

This resolution expresses the concern of the House of Representatives about the growing

national security implications of Iran's relationships with countries in the Western Hemisphere.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has visited Latin America three times in the past year, and has signed agreements with several countries in the region worth billions of dollars. This is a strategic move on his part to build capabilities in our neighborhood.

On one side of the word, Iran continues to make progress on its nuclear program. And, on this side of the word, Iran has tried to sway leaders into supporting this dangerous agenda. And so far, his strategy is gaining momentum, which is extremely alarming.

Iranian involvement in Latin America is particularly concerning, especially considering Iran's history in places like Argentina. This week, Interpol, the world's law enforcement agency, will consider whether to uphold the arrest warrants for five Iranians and one Lebanese who planned and executed the 1994 bombing of the AMIA Jewish community center. Argentines are still waiting for justice to be served against those responsible, and Hizbollah and Iran are the lead suspects.

I also remain concerned about Hizbollah in our hemisphere as it relates to fundraising in the tri-border area, and other places. In fact, just last month, Admiral Jim Stavreedeas, head of the U.S. Southern Command wrote, “We consider Latin America and the Caribbean as being highly likely bases for future terrorist threats to the U.S. and others.”

The region has seen some progress, with new anti-terrorism legislation and increased counter-terrorism efforts. But, we all have a long way to go. Eliminating the threat of terrorism and its state sponsors is not just in the best interest of the United States. The countries in our hemisphere will be safer. The United States and Central and Latin America have an aligned interest.

I hope that this resolution is seen as a signal that the United States is willing to help our friends in Central and Latin America make their countries safer and free from terrorism.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR FRANK J.
RYAN

HON. MIKE FERGUSON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. FERGUSON. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Mayor Frank J. Ryan and his service to the residents of Bound Brook, NJ.

Mayor Ryan is a graduate of Bound Brook High School and is married to Rachel “Te.” He is a father of two, and grandfather of four. Mayor Ryan served with honor in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. In 1959, Mayor Ryan was elected to the Board of Education, where he served for 7 years before also serving as the president of the Board of Education between 1966 and 1968. In 1998, he was elected to the Borough Council and in 2000 was elected mayor of Bound Brook.

Together, Mayor Ryan and I have worked on flood control for the Bound Brook portion of the Green Brook Flood Control Project. To date, we have secured more than 50 million Federal dollars and have completed more than half of the project. Mayor Ryan has been and remains a strong advocate of the project; ear-

lier this year he travelled to Washington to personally promote continued Federal funding for the project with senior members of the House Appropriations Committee.

Mayor Ryan is retiring this year from elective public service in Bound Brook. On behalf of residents of Bound Brook, I wish Mayor Ryan many happy years of rest and relaxation with his wife, Te, and I am pleased to honor his service to Bound Brook.

HONORING CENTRAL VALLEY
SAFETY SOCIETY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Central Valley Safety Society for their commitment to serving the Central Valley.

The Central Valley Safety Society, CVSS, was created as a non-profit organization in 1996 to provide safety and human resource professionals with a place to exchange ideas and information, for the professional enhancement of members and to recognize those who excel in safety and health. CVSS is based in the Central Valley and is the only group of its kind from Los Angeles to Modesto. The long time organizational members include; Pelco, Rich Products, The Fresno Bee, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District, Fresno County EOC and Clovis Cemetery District.

CVSS holds nine monthly luncheon meetings in downtown Fresno. Typically, there are 20 to 30 members present to discuss topics that cover a range of issues from Heat Illness Protection, Hazardous Materials and Health and Wellness Programs. The speakers are typically volunteers from the community. Over the past 8 years, the organization has partnered with similar organizations in the Fresno area, such as; Ag Safe, Human Resource Association of Central California, Fresno County Employer Advisory Council and California State University SHRM Student Chapter. CVSS has partnered with these and other organizations to plan and participate in a half-day human resource and safety seminar and it is held annually in October.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Central Valley Safety Society for their commitment to serving the Central Valley. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing the organization many years of continued success.

CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FL,
CELEBRATES ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the people of St. Pete Beach, FL, as they celebrate the city's 50th anniversary this weekend.

It is an honor to represent this beautiful beach community that is home to one of our Nation's finest beaches and picture perfect